



U.S. Immigration
and Customs
Enforcement

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News Release

10 DANGEROUS GANG MEMBERS ARRESTED IN ATLANTA BY ICE, FBI AND ALPHARETTA PD

ATLANTA—Ten dangerous gang members of the SUR 13 street gang were arrested here yesterday by special agents of U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement (ICE), the Federal Bureau of Investigations (FBI) and officers assigned to the Alpharetta Police Gang Unit.

The gang members were arrested at a house known to both ICE and local police as a gang hangout. The men had numerous gang tattoos and paraphernalia commonly associated with the SUR 13 gang. A shotgun found in the house was seized by the Alpharetta Police Department.

“We are determined to disrupt and dismantle these illegal criminal gang organizations,” said Kenneth A. Smith, special agent-in-charge in Atlanta. “ICE along with its law enforcement partners will continue to work together to keep our neighborhoods safe.”

The ten criminals arrested are all citizens of Mexico. All have been charged with being in the country illegally and will have to appear before an immigration judge. The men are in ICE custody awaiting the outcome of their cases.

These arrests are part of "Operation Community Shield" an ICE anti-gang initiative launched in March of this year to target members of the MS-13 gang. To date, ICE special agents and their federal, state, and local counterparts have arrested more than 400 MS-13 members nationwide.

Operation Community Shield is designed to disrupt and dismantle violent gang organizations and prosecute their members by employing the full range of authorities and investigative tools available to ICE. Under this initiative, ICE is employing its broad immigration authorities, both criminal and administrative, against gang members.

Operation Community Shield draws on strong partnerships and cooperation with existing federal, state, and local anti-gang efforts. Such partnerships are essential to the success of the initiative and to ensure officer safety during operations.

ICE

U.S. Immigration and Customs Enforcement was established in March 2003 as the largest investigative arm of the Department of Homeland Security. ICE is comprised of five integrated divisions that form a 21st century law enforcement agency with broad responsibilities for a number of key homeland security priorities.